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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hickey et al.

Divisional of Serial No.: 10/357,238

Previous Group Art Unit: 1624

Filed: Herewith

Previous Examiner: J. Ford

For: NOVEL COMPOUNDS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

The **Abstract** is attached as a separate page.